February 28, 2019

Re: Opposition to SB 738, SB 457, and SB 874

Dear Education Committee Members,

As a resident of Wilton with a child attending Wilton High School, I strongly oppose SB 738, SB 457 and SB 874, along with any other bill that allows for forced regionalization of Connecticut public schools.

We moved to Wilton three years before my child was born, knowing that we wanted it to be our home for the outstanding schools that our child would one day attend. My daughter, who is now a junior at the high school, has benefitted immensely from this great school system. We like to say that she's received a private school education, minus the big price tag.

If Wilton was forced to regionalize, I am certain that the quality and character of our schools would be diminish greatly - class sizes would increase and one-on-one attention would become a thing of the past. People move to Wilton FOR OUR SCHOOLS. However, since these bills have been proposed, potential home buyers have started shying away from Wilton. Sadly, I can't blame them. Who would want to make an investment knowing that the quality of the local school system is in jeopardy?

It is my hope that you will listen to the great people around the state who want control of their schools kept at the LOCAL level. I ask that you oppose SB 738, SB 457 and SB 874 and any other legislation that opens the door to forced regionalization of Connecticut public schools.

Sincerely, Andrea Preston Wilton, CT